

In the claims:

1. A storage processing device, comprising:  
an input/output module including:  
port processors, each port processor including a Fibre Channel node to receive and transmit network traffic; and  
a switch coupling said port processors; and  
a control module coupled to said input/output module, said input/output module and said control module being configured to interactively perform Fibre Channel traffic processing.
2. The storage processing device of claim 1, wherein said port processors perform processing of FCP read and write commands and data and said control module performs processing of session management frames.
3. The storage processing device of claim 2, wherein said control module further performs switch operation functions.
4. The storage processing device of claim 3, wherein said switch operation functions include at least one of a fabric controller function, a routing table development function, a name server function, a management function and a zone server function.
5. The storage processing device of claim 2, wherein said control module further performs FCP non-read or write operations.
6. A fabric for coupling at least one host and at least one storage device, the fabric comprising:  
at least one switch for coupling to the at least one host and the at least one storage device; and  
a storage processing device coupled to the at least one switch and for coupling to the at least one host and the at least one storage device, the storage processing device including:  
an input/output module including:

port processors, each port processor including a Fibre Channel node to receive and transmit network traffic; and  
a switch coupling said port processors; and  
a control module coupled to said input/output module, said input/output module and said control module being configured to interactively perform Fibre Channel traffic processing.

7. The fabric of claim 6, wherein said port processors perform processing of FCP read and write commands and data and said control module performs processing of session management frames.

8. The fabric of claim 7, wherein said control module further performs switch operation functions.

9. The fabric of claim 8, wherein said switch operation functions include at least one of a fabric controller function, a routing table development function, a name server function, a management function and a zone server function.

10. The fabric of claim 7, wherein said control module further performs FCP non-read or write operations.

11. A network comprising:  
at least one host;  
at least one storage device; and  
a fabric coupling the at least one host and the at least one storage device, the fabric comprising:  
at least one switch for coupling to the at least one host and the at least one storage device; and  
a storage processing device coupled to the at least one switch and for coupling to the at least one host and the at least one storage device, the storage processing device including:  
an input/output module including:  
port processors, each port processor including a Fibre Channel node to receive and transmit network traffic; and

a switch coupling said port processors; and  
a control module coupled to said input/output module, said input/output module and said control module being configured to interactively perform Fibre Channel traffic processing.

12. The network of claim 11, wherein said port processors perform processing of FCP read and write commands and data and said control module performs processing of session management frames.

13. The network of claim 12, wherein said control module further performs switch operation functions.

14. The network of claim 13, wherein said switch operation functions include at least one of a fabric controller function, a routing table development function, a name server function, a management function and a zone server function.

15. The network of claim 12, wherein said control module further performs FCP non-read or write operations.

16. A method for performing Fibre Channel traffic processing in a storage processing device, comprising:

providing an input/output module including:

port processors, each port processor including a Fibre Channel node receiving and transmitting network traffic; and

a switch coupling said port processors; and

providing a control module coupled to said input/output module, said input/output module and said control module being configured to interactively perform Fibre Channel traffic processing.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein said port processors perform processing of FCP read and write commands and data and said control module performs processing of session management frames.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein said control module further performs switch operation functions.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein said switch operation functions include at least one of a fabric controller function, a routing table development function, a name server function, a management function and a zone server function.

20. The method of claim 17, wherein said control module further performs FCP non-read or write operations.